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JPRS L/8648

6 September 1979

Worldwide Report

NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

(FOUO 37/79)

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ECONOMIST BLAMES DRUGS FOR IMBALANCE IN NATIONAL ACCOUNTS

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 4 Jul 79 p 26

[Text]

MELBOURNE: The amount of money involved in drug trafficking was big enough to create huge discrepancies in Australia's national accounts, a senior economist said yesterday.

Dr John Donovan, of W. D. Scott and Co, estimated that in the year to June 1977 the bulk of the $1276 million expenditure discrepancy could be put down to the illegal drug trade.

The next year the discrepancy was $1071 million and for the financial year just ended, Dr Donovan estimated, it could be $1200 million.

He said that $1000 million of this could realistically be due to illegal drug trafficking.

Dr Donovan acknowledged that some of the discrepancy would be due to errors and inconsistencies in estimates and some other things.

The statistical discrepancy in the national accounts is the amount of money needed to b alance up income and expenditure.

Dr Donovan said it was obvious that on the income side there was money flowing from illegal drugs.

This was a result of drug money being "laundered" and then included as legitimate income for tax purposes.

But he noted that there was nothing on the expenditure side to balance it up.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics recognises the drug money problem.

In March it issued an explanatory statement listing three areas of understatement on the expenditure side of the accounts, which cause the statistical discrepancy.

They were:

- Expenses associated with the sale of buildings and land, such as legal fees, real-estate commission and duty.
- The cost of alterations and additions carried out to dwellings without a permit.
- Illicit drugs, illegal gambling and prostitution.

Some economists guess that about one-third of the discrepancy is attributable to drugs.

Other estimates range from 10 to 50 and even up to 90 per cent.

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AUSTRALIA'S 'DRUG SCENE' SAID TO BE WORSENING

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 13 Jul 79 p 4

[Editorial: "The Deadly Drugs Trade"]

[Text]

FOLLOWING the recent spate of drug murders in Australia and New Zealand, the disappearance and possible murder of yet another young drug courier further emphasises the deadly nature of the drugs traffic.

Not only do drugs produce death in those worst addicted, but the trade has spawned abduction, murder and bribery.

The terrifying thing is that there is no indication whatever that all the inquiries, anti-drug campaigns, drug squad activities, coastal surveillance and higher penalties for pushers have brought any improvement in Australia's drug scene. It seems to be getting worse and more vicious as the crime rings expand.

One recent estimate was that in three years, on present trends, there will be 200,000 heroin addicts in Australia. That is frightening indeed.

It is now 21 months since the Commonwealth Government set up a Royal Commission into drugs under Mr. Justice E. S. Williams, of the Queensland Supreme Court. The commissioners have taken evidence in Australia and visited south-east Asia. They held their final hearings in Melbourne two months ago.

Preparation of the commission's report must be treated as urgent for, unlike the Great Barrier Reef Royal Commission, which took four years, the drug inquiry is an urgent one.

Hopefully the commission's report will go to the extent of letting the country know how serious and extensive the drug problem is and what needs to be done to crush the traffic, or at least curb it. The four-year Barrier Reef report achieved little.

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Penalties

MANY judges have come to recognise that present penalties are not having the wanted effect on the drug traffic.

The State's Chief Justice (Sir Charles Wanstall) said in the Criminal Appeal Court a fortnight ago that the time had come for courts to impose higher sentences.

He is right, so far as the smugglers and pushers of hard drugs are concerned. There needs, however, to be a clear division between the professional drug traffickers and people smoking marihuana which, though at present illegal, has become almost a social custom for some.

Last month delegates at an illicit drugs conference of Commonwealth, Asian and Pacific countries, held in Kuala Lumpur, called for uniform world-wide or regional drug laws. This is unlikely to happen.

It would be impracticable to get world-wide agreement on drug laws, however worthy the aim might be. A measure of greater uniformity in the south-east Asian and Pacific regions might be possible.

Penalties would, of course, provide a problem. Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore and the Philippines have the death penalty for the worst drug trafficking offences.

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INVESTIGATION OF INTERNATIONAL DRUG SYNDICATE CONTINUES

Deaths Linked to Syndicate

Melbourne THE AGE in English 11 Jul 79 p 5

[By Lindsay Murdoch]

[Text]

Melbourne police believe than an Australasian drug syndicate, which has executed up to eight people, is still operating.

Two homicide squad detectives are in New Zealand trying to track leaders of the syndicate which ordered the murders of Douglas and Isabel Wilson, whose bodies were found in a grave at Rye on May 18.

Detectives said yesterday they had had no indication that the syndicate had folded.

They said the syndicate bosses appeared to use legitimate businesses as fronts for drug smuggling.

The Melbourne detectives in New Zealand, Detective Inspector Brian Ritchie and Detective Senior Sergeant Ian Williamson, will question people about the syndicate in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Queenstown.

The detectives yesterday questioned a company director being held in Christchurch on three charges under the Passport Act.

Mr. Peter Fulcher, 39, of the Auckland suburb of North Shore, was arrested in Christchurch on Friday.

Police say he intended to fly from New Zealand to Australia and then to London.

The New Zealand Supreme Court has adjourned until today a bail application made on Mr. Fulcher's behalf.

The charges against him are set to be heard on August 28.

Police told Christchurch Magistrates' Court last Saturday they opposed Mr. Fulcher's request for bail for security reasons.

Inspector Ritchie said in Christchurch yesterday that apart from the Wilsons, the syndicate is suspected of having murdered:

- New Zealand couple Gregory Paul Ollard and his girlfriend Julie Theilman, after a row with syndicate bosses in Melbourne in late 1977.
- A man whose handless body was found in bush near Port Macquarie in March last year.
- A man who was thrown overboard during a drug-smuggling operation at sea.
- A girl whose body was washed up in Sydney Harbor in 1975.
- Another person in New Zealand.

Inspector Ritchie described the syndicate leaders as "wealthy, evil men".

Detectives believe the syndicate has operated for four or five years.

It deals in heroin and hashish oil.

Inspector Ritchie and Sergeant Williamson flew from Melbourne on Monday with New Zealand drug squad detective Neil Morris, who arrived in Melbourne several weeks ago to help investigations.

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Further Details on Murders

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 11 Jul 79 p 12

[Text] Melbourne.--Two young women shot dead in Melbourne and New Zealand in the last month are believed to have been killed by leaders of an international drug ring.

Victorian homicide squad detectives said yesterday that the ring leaders were suspected of ordering the deaths of up to nine members of the organisation since late 1975.

Detectives believe that five of the victims have been young women.

It is believed the ring was linked to the execution killing of a Melbourne massage palour girl on June 11 and the "murder by mistake" of a teenage nightclub hostess in Auckland 11 days ago.

The victim of the Melbourne killing was Margaret Ann Clayton, 26, who was shot twice in the back of the head while lying on the floor of a Fitzroy massage parlour.

The teenager murdered in Auckland was Margaret Bell, 17, who was shot dead from a passing car as she stood outside a city nightclub.

Looked alike

New Zealand detectives have been told that the girl, who was shot in the head with a high-powered rifle, was mistaken for another young woman who worked at the club.

Police sources in New Zealand said yesterday that Miss Bell and the other woman looked alike and there was little doubt the wrong person was shot.

Detectives have been told there was a "contract" on the other woman, who was heavily involved in the drug scene and is now under police protection.

Two Melbourne detectives flew to New Zealand this week to continue the investigation into four of the deaths attributed to the drug ring.

The Victorian squad deputy head (Detective Inspector Brian Ritchie) said in **Christchurch** yesterday that the syndicate had existed for four or five years and its leaders were "wealthy, evil men."

Inspector Ritchie was accompanied to New Zealand by Detective Senior Sergeant Ian Williamson, an experienced Melbourne drug squad detective, who was seconded to the homicide squad last month to help with investigations into drug murders.

New Zealand detective, Neil Morris, who came to Melbourne last month to assist in the investigations, also returned home with the pair.

The Melbourne detectives yesterday interviewed a man in Addington jail, Christchurch, about the deaths of New Zealand couple, Douglas and Isabel Wilson, and the disappearance of another New Zealand couple last seen in Melbourne.

The bullet-ridden bodies of the Wilsons were found in a sandy grave near Rye, 70 kilometres south-east of Melbourne, on May 18, a month after they disappeared.

The couple still missing, Gregory Ollard and Julie Theilman, were last seen in Melbourne late in 1977, and are known to have fallen out with the leaders of the drug ring.

Couriers

All four were known to police as drug couriers for the ring.

Detectives said yesterday that several of the people killed by the ring had been dumped from boats at sea.

Another victim, was Harry Lewis, — a drug courier whose body was found in a remote paddock at Port Macquarie in New South Wales on March 15.

Lewis had been shot dead and his hands cut off and his teeth extracted to impede identification.

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Another Courier Missing

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 12 Jul 79 p 13

[Text]

SYDNEY. — Another young woman drug courier connected with an international drug ring under investigation by Australian police has disappeared in New South Wales in strange circumstances.

Sydney C.I.B. detectives are concerned that the woman, Vivian Lorraine Sharp, who was a prisoner at the Tomago Detention Centre at Raymond Terrace, near Newcastle, may have been abducted and killed because of her knowledge of the drug ring.

Sharp disappeared on Monday evening while attending a course at the Newcastle Technical College.

She was serving a six-year sentence for importing Budda sticks (a form of marihuana) and falsifying a passport in May last year.

Sydney homicide detectives said yesterday Sharp was arrested at Sydney Airport with Harry Lewis, a known drug courier with the international syndicate.

The detectives believe Lewis's body was found in bushland at Port Macquarie on March 15 this year, although the body has not been positively identified.

The body had three bullet wounds and was badly decomposed. Birds and bush animals had scattered the hand bones which led to speculation that the hands had been cut off.

A spokesman for the Department of Corrective Services said yesterday that Sharp had been attending the course at Newcastle regularly and was regarded as a model prisoner.

Although she was not due for release until early 1981, it was considered unlikely that she would have attempted to escape.

One detective said yesterday: "It is highly coincidental that Sharp disappeared just two days after two Victorian detectives flew to New Zealand to interview a man in jail connected with the ring".

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DOCTORS REPORT SHORTAGE OF COCAINE FOR MEDICAL USE

Melbourne THE AGE in English 9 Jul 79 p 3

[Text]

While the illicit cocaine trade flourishes amongst the wealthier and trendier citizens of Europe and North America, many Melbourne doctors are unable to get the drug for specialist surgery.

Collins Street pharmacists say they have been unable to get cocaine for months and some specialists are using less preferred synthetic substitutes.

Cocaine has been used by eye, ear, nose and throat surgeons for many years as a powerful local anaesthetic.

Its second major use is in treating severe pain, especially in advanced cancer.

One doctor who has been unable to get the drug is eye specialist Dr. Fred Fenton, who uses small amounts of cocaine in eye drops for a local anaesthetic.

Dr. Fenton said he had been using cocaine drops for 50 years but when his supplies recently ran out his chemist said he could not supply it.

Dr. Fenton said that over the ast 20 or 30 years cocaine had been replaced by substitutes but the drug had qualities which made it superior.

Cocaine is an extract from coca leaves and is produced chiefly in Bolivia, Peru and Argentina.

By PHILIP McINTOSH, our Medical Reporter

The leaves of the the Erythroxylum coca shrub have been chewed for their stimulant and euphoric effects by South American Indians since at least the 6th century.

According to a recent article in the British 'Medical Journal': "Cocaine is in short supply all over the world, owing partly to the failure of last year's coca crop and partly to increased illicit use of cocaine in the United States".

Mr. Bernard Taylor, managing director one local importer of the drug, Glaxo Australia Pty. Ltd., said the company had four kilograms of cocaine on outstanding order from Britain.

Figures from the International Narcotics Control Board of the United Nations, which controls all lawful use of cocaine, show a marked contraction in the world's total manufacture of the drug for medical use.

Production fell from 938 kilos in 1973 to 683 kilos in 1977.

The medical director of the Peter MacCallum Hospital, Dr Fedora Trinker, said the clinic had trouble about a year ago getting supplies of cocaine for cancer patients but the hospital pharmacy now ordered well in advance.

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BRISBANE COURT GRANTS BAIL FOR 10 ON 20 DRUGS CHARGES

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 5 Jul 79 p 20

[Text] Self-bail totalling $12,450 was imposed in the Magistrate's Court yesterday on five men and five women who were remanded on 20 charges relating to heroin and cannabis.

They were arrested during police raids on Tuesday night.

One of the men, Phillip Allen Neville, 26, car salesman, of Overend Street, Norman Park, was remanded to August 13 on $5000 self-bail with sureties of $4000 on two charges relating to the sale of heroin.

His de-facto wife, Robyn Dianne Jones, 26, of Whites Road, Lota, was similarly charged and remanded on $3000 self bail.

The police prosecutor (Senior Sergeant E. M. Murdoch) told the court it would be alleged that a police undercover agent had bought five grams of heroin from Neville and Jones for $550.

He said Jones had readily admitted participating in the sale but that Neville had made no admissions to police.

Teresa Ann Yates, 22, student, of Moncrief Road, Cannon Hill, was remanded to July 25 on charges of having sold heroin and of having been in possession of heroin.

Mr. Andersen S.M. allowed her self bail of $1500.

Garry Raymond Cottam, 22, painter, of Moncrief Road, Cannon Hill, was charged with possession of heroin, possession of a syringe for administration of heroin and possession of cannabis.

He was remanded on a total of $900 self bail.

Also before the court were Wayne Stephen Meredith, 20, male nurse, and Robyn Margaret Mosley, 21, nurse, both of Archer Street, Gordon Park.

Mosley was charged with having cultivated cannabis, with having administered heroin to another, and with possession of instruments used in the administration of heroin.

She was released on $600 self bail.

Cultivated

Meredith was charged with having cultivated cannabis and had $200 self bail imposed on him.

Jennifer Ann White, 21, clerical assistant, of Archer Street, Norman Park, faced charges of possession of cannabis and possession of instruments for the administration of heroin. She was remanded on $400 self bail.

Charged with possession of cannabis and related offences were Adrian James McFeeter, 24, fork lift driver, of Buhdah Street, Camp Hill, Roger John Rolls Phillins, 22, mechanic, of West Street, Coorparoo, and Genevieve Suzanne Stone, 20, process worker, of West Street, Coorparoo.

They were remanded on a total of $850 self bail.

Campbell Stuart Somerville, 22, builder's laborer, of Ipswich Road, Darra, pleaded guilty to two charges of possession of cannabis and possession of a pipe to smoke cannabis.

He was convicted and fined $600.

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AUSTRALIA

SUSPECT IN MURDER CASE REFUSED BAIL ON HEROIN CHARGES

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 4 Jul 79 p 11

[Text]

A 25-year-old man who allegedly had used heroin "on and off" for the past eight years, was refused bail in Wollongong court yesterday on drug charges.

Police said the man was on $2,000 bail after being charged with having been an accessory after the fact to a murder in Kings Cross last month.

Allan Sydney Thomas, forklift driver, of Edgar Street, Towradgi, pleaded guilty to supplying heroin at Towradgi on June 24 and with having in his possession $120, which was reasonably suspected of being stolen or otherwise unlawfully obtained at Towradgi on June 25.

Thomas also pleaded guilty to possessing heroin at Towradgi on June 25 and using heroin at Towradgi between June 22 and 25.

The police prosecutor, Sgt. T. Robinson, alleged Ahmed Hamby was stabbed to death while participating in a drug deal in Barncleuth Lane, Kings Cross, about 10 pm on June 13.

He said Paul William Hatton had been charged with murder and Thomas and Hatton's girlfriend, Lorraine Jean Hains, had been charged with having been accessories after the fact to the murder.

Hatton had gone to Kings Cross to sell heroin and Hamby allegedly had tried to deceive Hatton by paying him with bundles of paper rolled in bank notes.

Sgt Robinson alleged that on June 22 while Hatton and Thomas were in the remand centre Hatton had told Thomas to remove six grammes of heroin he had hidden in a bedroom of a house in Fairy Meadow, so police would not find it.

Sergeant Robinson alleged Thomas had used some of the heroin and had sold two grammes of the drug to friends for $240.

He alleged Thomas had sold the heroin to raise money for legal costs.

Mr I. Pike SM remanded Thomas in custody to July 24 for sentence and called for a pre-sentence report.

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BRIEFS

DRUG CASE DISMISSED--Sydney.--The stepson of the New South Wales Royal Commissioner into Drug Trafficking (Mr. Justice Woodward) has had a drug-related police charge against him dismissed. Graham Paul Malyon, 24, taxi driver, of Northbridge, appeared in North Sydney Court on Friday charged with attempting to obtain heroin at Kings Cross on or about February 23. Sergeant T. Gannon (prosecuting) said he was instructed not to offer any evidence and cited a Police Department file number. Mr. L. McCarthy, S.M., said that as no evidence was offered, the charge was dismissed. It was the fourth time Maylon had appeared in court in connection with the charge. [Text] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 3 Jul 79 p 11]

PROBLEMS WITH LEGAL DRUGS--The most widely used drugs of abuse in Australia--alcohol and over-the-counter and prescription drugs--are legal, says the WA Alcohol and Drug Authority's education liaison officer, Mrs Heather Carmody-Sheehan. There was an urgent need for front-line health-care staff such as doctors, nurses, social workers and counsellors in community-based organisations, she said. The staff needed to understand alcohol and drug problems, detect them and have skills in basic management and treatment. Early detection of alcohol and drug abuse led to early intervention. This was more likely to be successful than action in later stages. The WAADA had embarked on a long-term plan to provide training for such health workers. Mrs Carmody-Sheehan will leave on a three-month overseas tour this week to study education programmes for health and welfare personnel. This will be done under the terms of the Queen Elizabeth silver-jubilee trust award for young Australians. She recently received an award. She will visit alcohol and drug education units and attend conferences in the United States, Canada, Mexico, and Britain. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 2 Jul 79 p 32]

MORPHINE CHARGES--A $30,000 surety was placed on an Ascot man remanded in the Magistrate's Court yesterday on a charge of having possessed morphine to supply to others. Anthony John Mascali, 21, proprietor, of Stevenson Street, Ascot, was charged with having possessed morphine on Wednesday. Senior Sergeant E. M. Murdoch said police would allege that Mascali conducted a home visiting massage and escort service. He waid detectives who searched Mascali's flat found four morphine ampoules in the pocket of a track suit in his bedroom. [Excerpts] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 29 Jun 79 p 9]

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DRUGS EDUCATION--The fact that Australians are a nation of pill poppers has been well documented, but little or nothing is being done about it, a Senate committee on social welfare was told yesterday. The federal secretary of the Society of Hospital Pharmacists, Mr Barrie Miller, said the process of prescribing drugs and monitoring their effects was not easily accomplished. But he told the committee in Melbourne that this was further complicated by pressure from advertising and patients themselves. He called for a wide-ranging program of drug education with topics such as drub abuse and reasons people take drugs. [Excerpt] [Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 13 Jul 79 p 3]

HEROIN, ALCOHOL DEATH--It would be alleged that a girl died at Newman from the combined effects of a drug and alcohol, a solicitor said yesterday. In an application in the East Perth Court for bail for Damin Moldrich (26), Mr B. J. Singleton said that Moldrich had been charged at Newman with possessing cannabis and supplying heroin to the deceased girl. He had been remanded while investigations were made into the girl's death. Mr Singleton said that Moldrich would deny the allegations. Magistrate F. V. Smith set bail of $5000 with a similar surety on condition that Moldrich report daily. [Excerpts] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 12 Jul 79 p 32]

DRUG-RELATED THEFTS--More than 7730 color TV sets, worth almost $5.2 million have been stolen in Melbourne since 1975. Police say there is a ready market for the sets. The burglars--usually drug addicts desperate for money--get only $100 a set. [Excerpts] [Melbourne THE AGE in English 11 Jul 79 p 4]

ANY CANNABIS ILLEGAL--Pot smokers who hope to escape legal prosecution by claiming that they are not using cannabis sativa will have their evidence shot down by Australia's marijuana expoert, Dr Nallamilli Prakash. Dr Prakash, a botanist at New England University, Armidale, NSW, has proved that the commonly--and illegally--possessed "weed" is the sativa species, no matter what variety it is. His finding contradicts arguments used in American courts to free pot smokers who calimed the marijuana they smoke is another species. It is believed Australian courts have not had to decide whether a person charged really has possession of cannabis sativa. But Dr Prakash will be ready with the evidence if a defendant does raise the challenge. [Excerpt] [Canberra THE WEEKEND AUSTRALIAN in English 7-8 Jul 79 p 3]

HASHISH OIL IMPORT--Two men charged in the Magistrate's Court yesterday with having been knowingly concerned with the import of cannabis resin oil were each remanded to July 20 on self bail and sureties of $20,000. John Joseph Morris, 36, cargo clerk, of Alverstone Street, Banyo, and George Doueihi, 36, taxi driver, of Exley Street, Bardon, entered no plea before Mr. Evans, S.M. The Crown prosecutor (Mr J. O. Jerks) said the cannabis resin involved had a wholesale value of $250,000. He said that street value would be much more than that. He said Morris had confessed to the offence in an interview with Commonwealth police. Morris had admitted being aware of a parcel arriving from overseas containing drugs. He said he had no known what kind of drugs

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were in it. Morris went to Townsville and received $5000 for his part in the operation, Mr. Jerks said. Morris said he was an intermediary. Mr. Jerks did not oppose self bail with a surety. [Excerpt] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 7 Jul 79 p 23]

HEROIN SALE OFFER--A registered heroin addict, 21, who allegedly offered to sell heroin valued at $5000 to a police undercover agent, was remanded yesterday on bail and sureties totalling $20,000 in the Magistrate's Court. Before Mr. Andersen S.M. was Darryl Alfred Corrie, of Chataway Street, Carina, on four charges of having sold heroin to another person between May 25 and June 27. Corrie was further charged with having attempted to sell heroin to another on July 4. A knife-hand, 24, also appeared on three charges relating to heroin. Ricki Vaughan Thompson, of Illidge Street, Camp Hill, was remanded with Corrie to August 7 on bail and sureties of $10,000. The police prosecutor (Senior Sergeant E. M. Murdoch) said it would be alleged that a police undercover officer bought seven grammes of heroin from Corrie for $840. [Excerpt] [Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 6 Jul 79 p 8]

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BRIEFS

DRUGS AT MONG HPYAK--Rangoon, 20 Jul--Customs men at Mong Hpyak seized 12.7 kilogrammes of brown opium powder valued at K 202,300 on 8 July. The Customs men stopped a Jeep, No Khagwe/2033, with Maung Kyaw Sein at the wheel, which was on its way from Kengtung to Tachilek and searched the car. They found 13 packets of brown opium powder weighing 12.7 kilogrammes hidden in the bedroll of Maung Kyaw Sein. Driver Maung Kyaw Sein and U Pika and Ma Ah Ba of Kengtung, the alleged owners of the drugs, were arrested. Mong Hpyak police are taking action against the three. [Text] [Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 21 Jul 79 p 1]

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BRIEFS

OPIUM SEIZURE AT VISAKHAPATNAM--In Visakhapatnam port, after a decade, the Customs officers recovered 4.5 kg of opium from two crew members, both Singapore nationals who were arrested. On July 3, the baggage of a Malaysian passenger bound for Penang by M.V. Chidambaram from Madras was searched on suspicion and opium weighing 5 kg and valued at Rs 35 lakhs in the United States, was recovered from the false bottom of a trunk. He was arrested. [Excerpt] [Madras THE HINDU in English 21 Jul 79 p 13]

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JAKARTA SEEN AS DRUG TRANSIT AREA

Jakarta SINAR HARAPAN MINGGU in Indonesian 24 Jun 79 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Reports Indicate Capital City of Jakarta Has Become Transit Stop for Narcotics from Golden Triangle to Europe-U.S."]

[Text] Reports indicate that the capital city of Jakarta has become a transit stop for narcotics such as heroin and opium moving from the trade center in the Golden Triangle area (Burma, Thailand and Laos) to the countries of Europe and the U.S. These reports are based on investigations by the Indonesian Police Detection Unit.

From these investigations, our police officials are trying to further determine how large the narcotics network is and whether Jakarta is just a transit stop for the drugs or is a distribution area.

According to chief of the police information bureau Drs Darmawan, Indonesia, and Jakarta in particular, hasn't been determined to be a distribution area yet for narcotics from the Golden Triangle area. "It can truthfully be called a transit stop," he said because as a result of the arrest of two foreign nationals in luxury hotels in Jakarta who were found to be carrying two kg of heroin, it has been determined that they were actually only carrying the illegal drugs to the U.S. from the Golden Triangle area.

They felt that Jakarta could be used as a transit stop because security arrangements aren't too strict.

In other countries like Singapore, Malaysia and Hong Kong, security is very tight. These international criminals used their knowledge of the slackness of security at the Halim Perdanakusuma airport to their own profit. The results were that illegal drugs were slipped out of the airport and carried to a hotel in West Jakarta.

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From Jakarta the goods were to be carried to the U.S. and sold. "The price is very high there."

Darmawan said this is reasonable as the black market price in Indonesia for the banned goods is only around 1.5 billion rupiahs while in the U.S. or in Europe the same drugs could bring 2.1 billion rupiahs. It is figures that one packet of heroin containing 4 miligrams of heroin is worth 3,000 rupiahs in Jakarta. But in the U.S. or in Europe the price is $1.75 per miligram.

According to Darmawan, interrogation of the two foreign nationals, S.S. from Thailand and L.P.P. from Singapore, is still being carried out to get as detailed information as possible concerning the syndicate. From preliminary investigatiins, the two accused have been determined to be from one narcotics syndicate transporting drugs from the Golden Triangle region to the U.S. and Europe. The first transit stoo is Jakarta. It is hoped that information from the two can help determine further whether there are other syndicates using Jakarta or other areas for transit stops for the shipment of narcotics.

Meanwhile vice commander of the metro Jakarta police command's Detection Unit Police Lt Col Drs Safuan questioned by SINAR HARAPAN MINGGU said that based on reports coming in from investigations over the past few months, the indications are that the possibility that Jakarta is a distribution area for heroin is very slight.

If there is heroin being sold on the black market [in Jakarta] it is hard to find and very complicated to get. The price is around 2,000-5,000 rupiahs per small packet, and the purity is questionable,or whether it has been mixed with flour. "Up to now no one has reported buying impure heroin, but from seizures by police from the metro Jakarta regional command, it is known that heroin sold on the black market isn't pure. Some is mixed with flour," he added

Concerning other narcotic drugs such as marihuana, Drs Safuan, who handles a great many cases of narcotics abuse in Jakarta said reports indicate that the amount of drugs being used is not on the increase and not on the decrease.

The amount of marihuana being distributed at present in Jakarta fluctuates. At times it is very evident while at other times it disappears from the market. The black market price for a

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packet of marihuana leaf is on an average between 250-500 rupiahs. According to Drs Safuan the distribution of marihuana on the black market in Jakarta is a problem because it is grown inside the country mainly in North Sumatra. It can be brought to Jakarta by sea or air. Some even comes overland. So it is very difficult to say for certain whether one certain person is carrying marihuana or not, as criminals are very clever in hiding it. At times it is hidden in with dried fish or something else which has a strong aroma so that the smell of the marihuana is covered.

In one operation to round up morphin distributors on 11 June, a man named A.W.L. (43 years old) was arrested. He had hidden the morphine in the heads of flashlights. When he was searched at his home, A.W.L. who was know to be a distributor of morphine, wasn't found to have even a small amount of the banned drug. After a more intensive search, 70 packets of morphine were discovered in the heads of his flashlights.

According to Safuan, another difficulty experienced by the police in stopping the smuggling of marihuana from North Sumatra to the cities, mainly Jakarta, is due to the fact that he is not permitted to search the baggage of every passenger on domestic flights. So through the doors of the airports most of the marihuana from North Sumatra probably arrives in Jakarta and this in addition to that which comes by sea. To stop this one way would be to station narcotics dogs in airports but there are several reasons why this would not guarantee results.

Drs. Safuan, who once took part in a narcotics seminar in the Philippines, said the problem of getting evidence in cases of narcotic drugs is very, very difficult. In just a second of time, a criminal distributor of heroin or marihuana can get rid of the evidence by throwing it in water. If it has been in the water for any time it can't be used as evidence. Once, a heroin distributor was about to be arrested with the evidence known to be on him. But as the police were entering his home, he quickly covered his tracks by throwing all the drugs being sought into water. "All our hope of arresting him faded. He felt that even though he threw the drugs away he wasn't the loser. Because his profit in selling the banned drugs is very high, up to 30 times what he paid for them," he said. They feel its better to throw some away rather than be arrested. The sentences would be much freater if there were evidence.

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INDONESIAN OFFICIALS SEIZE ALMOST 2 KG OF HEROIN

Jakarta KOMPAS in Indonesian 19 Jun 79 pp 1, 5

[Article: "Two WNA Heroin Smugglers Arrested in Jakarta; 1,980 grams of Heroin, Worth 2 Billion Rupiahs; Indonesia Becomes Transit Area"]

[Excerpts] The police Narcotics Detection Unit [Satrestik] assigned to police headquarters has succeeded in seizing almost 2 kg of illegal heroin worth 2 billion rupiahs from two WNA [foreign nationals] spending the night at two luxury hotels in Jakarta. The two are S.S., a Thai national and L.T.P. a citizen of Singapore. At present they are being held by Satrestik at police headquarters.

In information given to the press on 18 June chief of police headquarters information agency Police Col Darmawan Sudarsono said that according to police investigations, the two foreign nationals are members of an international narcotics syndicate which is using Indonesia as a transit area for their smuggling.

Darmawan said that the hrroin they were carrying was not for distribution in Indonesia as they had their own men in Jakarta ready to take it on immediately to its country of distination. Who the men were that were to take in on was explained by Darmawan. He did say that for certain they weren't Indonesian citizens. And the country of destination was the U.S.

Actually the Indonesian police became aware of the heroin smuggling last August [1978]. Just when the heroin was to be brought to Indonesia wasn't clear. However, preparations were begun for the arrests.

On 1 June the two WNA arrived and went directly to their hotels. One stayed at Hotel S.P. on Thamrin street and the other at Hotel C in the Glodok area of West Jakarta. The arrests were also carried out on 1 June.

According to Darmawan, the seizure of the heroin met with some difficulties because they had it hidden in a rice carrying thermos and had camouflaged it with highly seasoned food, the smell of which covered the rather pungent odor of the heroin.

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The heroin was discovered in plastic packets. At one hotel there were five packets containing around 700 gram while at the other nine packets containing 1,280 grams were taken from the other smuggler. The total was 1,980 grams.

The Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), the special agency [entrusted with the job of] wiping out narcotics smuggling in the U.S., feels that it isn't impossible that Indonesia which has for some time been used as a transit area for the illegal narcotics trade, has been the illegal production base for the banned commodity since 1978. So, DEA which used to have only one office in Manila for all of Southeast Asia, has now opened an office in Indonesia.

According to DEA estimates, the countries with large populations like Indonesia are critical areas. And Indonesia has three international airports, 45 national airports and 13,000 islands with and without inhabitants.

Darmawan also said that the seizure of the almost 2 kg of heroin is the largest seizure ever made in Indonesia. Up to now, the largest was only 1 kg which was taken from a Mrs. Tya Ah Moy in 1975. She was carrying 13 kg of opium and 1 kg of heroin through the Halim Perdanakusumah airport. She was arrested and fined 900,000 rupiahs by the north-east Jakarta court before the present narcotics law was passed.

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MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

AUSTRALIAN ON DRUG CHARGE--Kuala Lumpur, Tues: A magistrate yesterday fined a 25-year-old Australian university student, Paul Francis Thomas, $245 after he pleaded guilty to possession of a small amount of heroin. But the court in Penang acquitted Thomas, who described himself as a final-year student of African studies at the Australian National University, Canberra, of other charges under the Dangerous Drugs Act, including administering heroin to himself.--AAP-Reuters. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 4 Jul 79 p 20]

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KATMANDU'S DURBAR SQUARE 'A GREAT MARKETPLACE' FOR OPIUM

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 30 Jun 79 p 8

[Report from Ranjan Gupta in New Delhi: "The Main Traffic on 'Freak St' Is Drugs"]

[Text] IT IS known as Freak Street and a freak it is. Running out of Katmandu's ancient Durbar Square, where former aristocratic palaces stand, is the road which is one of Asia's great market places for opium.

Here come visitors from around the world: hippie tribes from Europe, Australia and the United States. The sophisticated rich bored with twentieth century high living mingle with the Nepalese and bargain on the roadside for an ounce of this or that variety of "ganja" as opium is known in Nepalese.

Everything is quite open or was till very recently. Now the deals are struck with a little caution which on Freak Street is like a piece of obtrusive clothing on a beautiful body.

The Government of King Birendra has come down on the free trade of opium, though not perhaps too harshly. One can still walk into the innumerable cafes that fringe Freak Street and ask for "hot Ovaltine special" and if it is said in the right tone with a proper wink, the Ovaltine may be quite potent.

"Special" cakes too have the pinch of opium, though it is not advisable to have special Ovaltine with special pastry.

In keeping with the Government's new policy Freak Street cafes now display a sign asking clients not to smoke hash. To compensate, a sign alongside advertises "Oriental sex massage lessons" but it is hardly likely to replace what Freak Street has always been famous for.

There are few cars on Freak Street. It is a road one walks on. The jostling crowds are cosmopolitan with sometimes more foreign faces than local. It is also a street of overwhelming goodwill. There is little tension of the underworld, few conspiracies that characterise cloak and dagger streets.

"And why not," says a Nepalese. "After all, the taking of opium is nothing new to us. We have been having it for centuries. Now because of outside interest we are told it is bad."

Judging by the easy going manner of Freak Street no one in Nepal really takes that advice seriously.

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COURT TOLD OF DRUG-RUNNING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 27 Jun 79 p 31

[Text] Auckland, Tues: A Tongan seaman told a court here that he made a trip to Bali and Albany, WA, as navigator on a yacht owned by an alleged heroin importer.

Sione Fangatua Taupemuhu was giving evidence in a depositions hearing before Magistrate J. R. Aubin in the Auckland magistrate's Court.

Brian James Curtis (45), a self-employed Auckland property developer, is before the court charged with importing heroin into New Zealand at Karamea, on the South Island in March.

Taupemuhu said that he, the defendant, another man and a girl sailed from Auckland for Bali late in November last year.

They arrived at Bali on December 29 and the defendant twice flew to Singapore, the girl going with him on the second occasion.

Taupemuhu said that Curtis arrived back in Bali a day before the girl. When she arrived Curtis had told the other man to "tip some dollars to the customs" if they were difficult about a radio she had.

After stopping at Albany on February 7 for supplies, Taupemuhu said, he set a course for Porirua, Wellington, but later changed course for Karamea on Curtis's instructions.

About March 9 he was rowing Curtis, who carried a bag wrapped in plastic, to shore when a strong breeze came up and overturned the dinghy. Soon after landing the police arrived.

Taupemuhu said Curtis told him that if he was questioned he should say they had been going around the South Island and had not left New Zealand waters.

The hearing will continue on July 24.—AAP.

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AUSTRALIAN VISITOR DISCUSSES CHANGE IN HEROIN SOURCES

Brisbane THE COURIER-MAIL in English 30 Jun 79 p 5

[From Neil Kelly]

[Text] Bangkok.--Heroin from the Middle East had been detected recently in Australia for the first time, the Federal Narcotics Bureau chief (Mr. Harvey Bates) said yesterday.

He said this might indicate that law enforcement efforts had cut the supply to Australia of South-East Asian drugs, or it might mean that South-East Asian supplies were not sufficient to meet the rising demand in Australia.

American Government officials said recently that the flow of illicit drugs from South-East Asia to the U.S. had been significantly reduced because of increasingly effective international efforts to stop the flow at its source.

A drought in the opium growing area of northern Thailand reduced opium production and less heroin has been produced in the area in recent months.

Mr. Bates who is in Thailand to attend a narcotics seminar and for discussions with Thai Ministers and senior narcotics police officers, said drug addiction was becoming a bigger and bigger problem in Australia.

This was indicated, he said, by the increasing number of Australians seeking treatment for addiction and by the larger number of narcotics seizures in Australia.

Impression

Mr. Bates said that the heavier penalties for drug offences including life imprisonment for heroin trafficking, likely to become law in Australia soon, had made a marked impression upon governments and police in Thailand and Malaysia.

He said they were particularly pleased that Australia rather than lightening punishments was increasing them for cannabis trafficking, as they had gained the impression that Australia had gone soft on that drug.

Australian laws under which money and other assets suspected of being drug profits could be forefeited interested Thailand he said.

Thai officials were studying the Australian laws to see if similar penalties could be imposed in Thailand, Mr. Bate said.

At present drug profits in Thailand generally escaped the law, even in cases where the person who acquired them had been jailed or even executed for drug offences. fences.

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COMMANDER REFUSES LARGE BRIBE--OTHER SEIZURES

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Jun 79 p 9-A

[Excerpts] The commander of a military patrol has turned down a bribe of 1 million pesos offered to him by the hoodlums of La Guajira in exchange for his leniency. The incident took place when a clandestine airstrip, which was being used to send marihuana by air to the United States, was discovered.

The million pesos in cash, as well as those who were arrested and other implements which were confiscated, were turned over to the military courts.

The event took place last weekend during a period of just 4 days in which the military forces broke several records for strikes against traffickers and smugglers on Colombia's northern coast. These strikes have been carried out within the framework of an operation which has been dubbed the "Lightening Plan" by the military authorities.

The airstrip was discovered at a place called "Cipiana" in the district of Uribia in the upper Guajira. The discovery led to the confiscation of 285,500 pills of the hallucinogen "Mandrax," 86 cans of airplane fuel and 448 bales of marihuana tied up and ready for export.

The traffickers caught during the operation were identified as Crispin Rendon Britto and Roberto Barroso.

After they were caught the two men tried to bribe the commander of the military patrol with 1 million pesos in cash. The money, the men and the articles confiscated were turned over to the military courts in La Guajira.

An F-150 truck was detained between Richacha and Cuestecitas. The truck was carrying 157 bales of marihuana, 4 sawed-off M-1 carbines, 1 22-caliber carbine, one 30-30 caliber rifle and 6 12-gauge shotguns. Those who were riding in the truck escaped when they learned that the patrol was nearby.

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A cache was found at a place called La Luisa in the corregimiento of Bonda, municipality of Santa Marta. Luis Ramon Barbosa, Luis Daniel Paez, Antonio Jaimes, Elian Mogollon, Isaac Paez and Jesus A. Yanez were arrested at the site and found in possession of 560 bales of marihuana, 1 12-gauge shotgun and 1 22-caliber carbine. The hoodlums confronted the patrol and wounded noncommissioned officer Eusebio Morales Pineda.

A cache was found at km 30 on the road to Cuestecitas inside which were found 157 bales of marihuana, 1 Star 7.65 caliber pistol, 1 walkie-talkie set and 3 magazines for 5.56 caliber rifles.

An F-600 truck was confiscated in Buenavista carrying 47 bales of marihuana.

At a place called El Recreo on the La Plata channel of the Canal del Dique in the department of Bolivar, 236 bales of marihuana, 4 small boats and 2 guns were confiscated. The owners of the shipment managed to escape.

Summary

The following is a summary of the "Lightening Plan" operations carried out on the northern coast last weekend: there were 2 casualties among the hoodlums and 16 were captured; 5 handguns and 14 rifles were confiscated, as well as 7 trucks, 402 bales of coffee, 1,695 bales of marihuana, 238,500 pills of the hallucinogen "Mandrax," 86 cans of airplane fuel, 3 rifle magazines, 1 set of radio equipment and 4 small boats. In addition, a clandestine airstrip was uncovered, as reported at the beginning of this article.

Other Strikes

Cartagena, 25 Jun--Successive strikes were carried out by the F-2 department of the police against drug traffickers in Bolivar, where the police confiscated 236 bales of marihuana and 4 small boats, and arrested 6 persons.

These operations were carried out last weekend but certain details are not being revealed while additional investigations are being carried out so that when the cases are brought to court there will be firm evidence ready.

A police spokesman in this city has said that an F-2 air patrol uncovered a marihuana cache at the El Recreo housing project in a swampy region a short distance from the municipality of Turbana.

According to the report, the owners of the drug were apparently getting ready to transfer the shipment on a raft to an area of the Canal del Dique from where it would almost certainly have been loaded onto a ship to be transported abroad. Between 10,000 and 15,000 kg of the drug were confiscated and the weed had been treated to disguise its odor. It was also tied up in easy-to-handle bundles.

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The marihuana was found hidden among some shrubbery and the police believe that those who were guarding it were probably nearby when the patrol encircled the area. However, the police were not able to catch them.

Small Boats Confiscated

In another area of the Canal del Dique, very near to where it breaks off from the Magdalena River, in the Calamar spur, the same patrol captured four modern boats. According to the information the police have at their disposal, these boats were used to transport psychoactive substances of an as yet unknown quantity and quality. The drugs had reportedly been transferred to a ship in the river channel or at its mouth on the Bay of Cartagena.

On board the boats were six persons who were carrying two magnum revolvers. The source did not provide the identify of these persons, noting that by not revealing this information it would be possible to carry out another operation or other operations of great importance in the struggle against drug trafficking.

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COURT CONFISCATES SEIZED AIRCRAFT

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 5 Jul 79 pp 1-A, 5-A

[Article by Hugo Montes]

[Text] Villavicencio, 4 Jul--The Meta department government has ordered the confiscation of a light aircraft registered in the United States which was abandoned by its two crew members--who have been accused of drug trafficking --after they made what appears to have been an emergency landing. The plane landed at the "Hierba Buena" farm, which is owned by former regional Civil Defense Director Pedro German Sicard and is located in the municipality of Puerto Lleras.

As previously reported, the two U.S. citizens Dennis Burrill and Niky Burrill were taken to Villavicencio by the owner of the farm and subsequently fled in the direction of Bogota.

According to the information provided by Laureano Pardo Moreno, secretary for information and press of the Meta government, the investigation was initiated when the foreigners landed in a twin-engined airplane with U.S. registry No 1029 V. In the opinion of the civil aeronautics administrative department, which is headquartered in Bogota, the airplane landed in the country illegally. In Bogota the two foreigners have been charged with drug trafficking.

The U.S. citizens were not present to file a plea since as soon as they were shown the way they fled to the capital of Meta department and from there to Bogota. They were declared criminals in absentia.

The light aircraft was turned over to the Apiay military base to be used in the fight against drug trafficking in the eastern plains.

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ANOTHER 'TRAFFICKERS PARADISE' DESCRIBED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Jun 79 pp 1-A, 3-D

[Article by Edison Parra: "New Drug Traffic 'Paradise'"]

[Text] Orito (Putumayo), 17 Jun--Those who think that the focal point for cultivating the trafficking in narcotics, marihuana and cocaine is in La Guajira are mistaken. Or at least the information gathered by EL TIEMPO points in exactly the opposite direction. What is certainly true is the fact that national attention is focused on one corner of the fatherland as a result of the sporadic blows the authorities have been dealing those who devote themselves to trafficking in this type of "product."

The region covered by the department of Narino--with its strategic border location--as well as the entire area covered by Amazonas and Caqueta and the intendancy of Putumayo, make up a bloc which has given the country one of its biggest surprises as far as drugs are concerned.

The most recent confiscation of drugs was a major one worth several million and took place on 25 May 1978 on the island of El Tablero on the banks of the Putumayo River, in the intendancy of Putumayo. In this instance a light Pipper Navajo aircraft was involved in an accident and a search subsequently revealed that it was carrying close to 200 kg of highly pure cocaine.

The circumstances surrounding this case have been confusing. It has cost five people their lives, the investigation has been brought to three courts in this area, and curiously, no one has been arrested.

According to persons who know the region "like the palm of our own hands," naive farmers who grow marihuana, along with indigenous groups living in various areas of this same region, become involved in this activity since they do not know anything about it.

In addition, the most sophisticated equipment for processing, loading and transporting the drugs is used.

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Because of its vast size, this is a region which, as time passes, will probably be dubbed with its own special name as the Colombian narcotics "paradise."

Among the natives of the region there are those who say that if this area of drug trafficking in southern Colombia is discovered, "a scandal would be created with the disclosure of the names not only of the owners of vast tracts of land used for this activity, but also the names of persons of some note who are thoroughly involved in the drug business."

The jungle, the plains and the uninhabited areas of this rural region of Colombia are being used to maximum advantage to transport massive shipments. According to persons familiar with the region who asked to remain anonymous, these shipments are brought into Colombia from countries to the south by means of all kinds of tricks.

Some of the sources who provided the information said that there are experts in the region who have been hired specifically for the job of camouflaging "the merchandise."

Places which were formerly the haunts only of clandestine moonshiners--places located high up in the mountains, in boggy areas or right in the jungle--have for some time been shared by those who engage in lucrative illegal transactions on the basis of the popular weed.

In this region, which covers more than 150,000 square km, dozens of persons die periodically, and only the bowels of the earth where the bodies are buried know their identity.

These areas have never been visited by any law enforcement authority whatsoever, since even the most experienced and determined policeman would lose his way here and...perhaps even his life.

The light aircraft, helicopters (or steel mosquitos as one native called them) and persons who many assume are involved in petroleum exploration activities, mobilize the ringleaders of the well-organized drug traffic networks, whose boldness is becoming increasingly alarming.

Since 25 May 1978 there are no records of any more confiscations on this strip of Colombian territory, whose borders with countries such as Peru and Ecuador encourage growing, buying, selling and exporting operations.

The head-on struggle against the cultivation of the drug in order to contain its spread has apparently not made the progress which has publicly been attributed to it.

In this same region--this no man's land--there has even been some conjecture among the competing groups of traffickers themselves to the effect that the occasional confiscations made along the Colombian-Ecuadorean border, in the

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areas of Putumayo or Amazonas, are "a well-coordinated trick to divert the attention of the authorities while the really big-time trafficking is being done in other areas previously mapped out by the groups in 'operation.'"

The indications that drug cultivation and trafficking, as well as those who promote these activities, have invaded this side of Colombia are a definite sign that these activities have spread as a result of the failures encountered in La Guajira.

Honest people who live in the region in a constant state of uncertainty and who fear for their lives, trust that the authorities will take appropriate action. Meanwhile, those who are less optimistic note that "as long as the search for the criminals goes on blindly and without sufficient personnel, the authorities will be at a disadvantage in the struggle against this scourge or youth, the legalization of which continues to be debated at all levels in various circles."

The possibility has not been ruled out that all these departments, intendancies and precincts are one giant storehouse connected in some way with La Guajira.

In any case, everything seems to indicate that the authorities are on the verge of a sensational discovery involving marihuana plantations whose size and scope will unleash a controversy which will extend beyond national borders.

German Zea Comments

In Bogota, Minister of Government German Zea Hernandez has confirmed that the marihuana plantations which were formerly primarily located on the Atlantic coast have spread to southern Colombia, especially to Cauca, Narino and Amazonas. The minister said: Now an attempt has been made to invade other regions, so the government will have to extend the struggle against drugs to these areas of Colombia.

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COLOMBIANS ARE THOSE MOST HURT BY COCAINE WAR

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 13 Jul 79 p 2-A

[Text] The list of victims of the war between drug trafficking gangs in Miami is full of Colombian family names, such as Echeverria, Alvarez, Lopez, Diaz, Gutierrez, Ramirez, Suescun, Penagos, Araque and others, according to a report published some days ago by THE MIAMI HERALD.

American and Cuban citizens involved in cocaine and marihuana trafficking have also been victims of this war.

It must be pointed out that most of the crimes have remained unsolved and very few persons have been arrested.

Following is a brief account of the crimes that have occurred between January and May of this year:

7 January. At a Florida airport a pilot found the body of Dario de Jesus Florez, a 27 year old Colombian illegal immigrant who had been arrested in New York in relation with drug trafficking. He had been shot in the head and chest. Case unsolved.

9 January: Shawn Crowder, 38 years old, was shot in his apartment for marihuana debts. Unsolved case.

12 January: Carlo Oxemendi, a pianist, owed $100 in marihuana. He was wounded in the stomach with a shotgun. He died 2 weeks later. His assassin, Clobaldo Rafael Sosa, was wounded later in the abdomen and died on 22 February. Sosa's killer has not been captured.

17 January: John W. Johnson was wounded in the head, in the bathroom of his house. Police said that he was a drug pusher. Case unsolved.

18 January: Robert E. Johnson was wounded during an argument about the sale of 1 kg of cocaine. A suspect has been arrested.

18 January: Inside a television box a hunter found the bodies of Ruben Echeverria and Julio Gaona. They had been shot to death. Both were identififed as Colombians. Unsolved case.

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2 February: Joseph Perchitti was wounded in his house. He died a month later. The weapon was never found. Unsolved case.

6 February: Antonio Deloche and several friends entered Ralph Germano's house, killed him and stole $600, which they spend on drugs. Case unsolved.

12 February: Three youngsters argued with a pusher while trying to buy 60 pounds of marihuana. Rusell Coker, Cristopher Weaver and John Buchanon were found in the trunk of an automobile; they had been beaten and stabbed. Three persons have been arrested in his crime.

16 February: Barbie Hall knew too much about drug pusher Joseph La Rocca. The latter, together with a female friend, took Barbie to a pasture and killed him. Both killers have been arrested.

18 February: Jose Roberto Benedit, son of a cigarette manufacturer, argued with an unknown person about money and drugs. He was found dead. Unsolved case.

3 March: Steven Alvarez, barber and drug pusher was found dead by a friend in his apartment. Unsolved case.

3 March: Rudolph Billings, a driver, was wounded in the stomach by an unknown person. Unsolved case.

3 March: Antonio Lopez, a Cuban, was wounded by an unknown. The body was found inside a car. Unsolved case.

17 March: Emilio and Aristiies Diaz, two Puerto Ricans, were killed with a machine-gun shortly after leaving a discotheque. Unsolved case.

23 March: Beryie Diaz, a drug trafficking suspect was found dead in his office. Unsolved case.

24 March: Three marihuana buyers arrived at Jose Guetierrez's house. One of them fired a weapon after transferring the marihuana from the house into an automobile. His name was Terence Perry Anderson. Anderson's bullet killed Gutierrez and Gutierrez's bullet killed Anderson. Case solved.

3 April: Daniel Estevez Quintana was killed by someone who stood behind him and fired into his ear. Unsolved case.

3 Arpil: Domingo W. Veiguela Vior, a jeweler with a drug history, was wounded by two men who attacked him while he was walking with his wife. They shot him with a shotgun. One person has been arrested.

16 April: Two men left a new automobile at the door of a hospital. In the back seat was the body of ex-convict Oscar Alvarez. Unsolved case. 17 April: Esther Ramirez Rio, a 49 year old Colombian, was found dead in a pasture. She had been strangled. Unsolved case.

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23 April: The police tried to stop a battle between two cars. In the trunk of one of these was found the body of Jaime Suescun. Ramon Ruiz and Alvaro Palacio were arrested.

24 April: A marihuana pusher, Roy Hendricks, argued with a client. He was wounded and died. Unsolved case.

20 May: Oscar Penagos Rios, a Colombian, arrived in Miami with little baggage. Shortly after, he was found dead in the back seat of a car. Unsolved case.

25 May: Jorge Luis de Campo, a 27 year old Colombian, and Vincent Vidal, a Cuban, were killed in a luxury apartment. Unsolved case.

27 May: Gerardo Araque, a 28 year old Colombian, was found in a plastic bag near a canal. He was killed by cocaine at a party. Manuel Delgado, a trafficker whose fingerprints were found on the bag, has been arrested.

29 May: Jesus Hernandez, former Avianca flight assistant, was killed in a car by an assassin who fired at him from another vehicle. Unsolved case.

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COCAINE TRAFFICKER SEIZED IN BOGOTA

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Jun 79 p 3-A

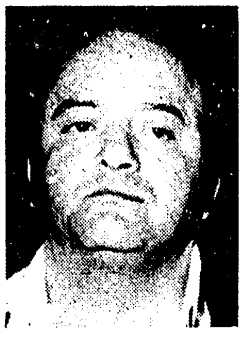
[Text] In Bogota, judicial police personnel from the attorney general's office have confiscated 35 kg of cocaine worth 40 million pesos. They also arrested three persons, among them the owner of the shipment.

The operation was carried out at 2330 hours last Saturday night at the intersection of 65th and 91st streets as the drug was being transported in several vehicles.

The members of the antinarcotics squad intercepted a 1972 Chevrolet van, license plate number IT-2038, which had a cache built in between the floor of the van and the chassis. Several plastic bags containing the alkaloid were found in the cache.

Another of the vehicles detained was a 1978 Dodge 300 truck. There was a metal cover over the chassis of the truck and inside were found a number of rolls of drugs.

A Nissan Patrol land rover, license plate number GC-2862, was traveling behind the van and the truck. The driver of the land rover was Gilberto Vasquez Caicedo, a 38-year-old native of Bogota and owner of the cocaine shipment.



Gilberto Vasquez Caycedo owner of the cocaine

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COCAINE LABORATORY FOUND IN BOGOTA

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 12 Jul 79 p 3-A

[Text] Personnel of the Judicial Police, belonging to the Attorney General's Office, discovered a modern cocaine laboratory in Bogota, confiscated four bags of the alkaloid and arrested three persons accused of the crime.

The operation took place last Tuesday night in a residence on 54 Street and 4th Carrera, northwest of the capital.

The Judicial Police agents confiscated four plastic bags containing 403 grams of pure cocaine, 13 containers for liquids, two scales, a test tube, a hose and other elements characteristic of a manufacturing laboratory.

The officials arrested Ernesto Ramirez, Ivan Virgilio Avilan and Pedro Maria Avila Roa, who were handed over to the judge.

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COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 8 Jul 79 p 2-A

[Text]

Appearing in the photograph from left to right are Armando Riasco Velasuez, Jorge German Cabrales and Victorio Cuzzi Naranjo, who were captured by personnel of the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] and of the Attorney General's Office with 16 kg of highly pure cocaine in the Jose Joaquin Vargas subdivision, northwest of Bogota. The gang had a cashiers check--lower portion of photograph--for 8.5 billion pesos, which Velasuez used to buy 9 kg of the alkaloid from Cabrales.

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BRIEFS

MARIHUANA SEIZED--Barranquilla, 1 Jul--An airplane registered in the United States loaded with 150 bales of marihuana was captured here today by the F-2 near a place called Ponedera in the southern part of the department. The plane had just been loaded when the F-2 patrols arrived. When the agents discovered ithe plane had just been loaded when the F-2 patrols arrived. When the agents discovered the plane, those who were inside and those who were loading the marihuana in it fled. There is some confusion surrounding the presence of this plane, a DC-3, near Ponedera. A police source has said that the airplane apparently made an emergency landing at the site. There are other reports to the effect that the plane was loaded there and was getting ready to take off when the detectives arrived. /Text/ /Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 2 Jul 79 p 14-C/ 9494

COCAINE LABORATORY EXPLODES--Yesterday afternoon there was an explosion at a cocaine laboratory on 97-26 Carrera 11, apartment 503. Jenaro Mejia, from Velez, Santander, was arrested at the site. The police confiscated a Dodge automobile with tags MA 4842. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Jul 79 p 8-B] 9341

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BRIEFS

U.S. CITIZENS ARRESTED--Four U.S. citizens involved in drug trafficking were arrested yesterday shortly after their arrival in Panama from Guayaquil, Ecuador. They are: Arthur Cruz Lopez, 33, George Salvador Vargas, 29, Dennis Eugene Luz, 31, and (Darrel Paul Morris), 32. They arrived at 1630 yesterday on a flight from Guayaquil. Cruz Lopez was arrested at Tocumen when he was found with liquid cocaine in a half-gallon bottle of whiskey. A few moments later authorities searching Vargas' room at the La Siesta Hotel found two sweaters, a shirt and a towel that had been soaked with cocaine. [Excerpt] [Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2315 GMT 20 Aug 79 PA]

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BRIEFS

THE HEROIN CONNECTION--A news last week in HERALD TRIBUNE concerning smuggling of Iranian heroin to Britain was most interesting. According to the anti-narcotic squads of the British Police, the Iranians who left the country during the old regime also managed to smuggle a great deal of pure heroin to Britain which has made London the centre of world heroin traffic, replacing Amsterdam and South France. Exclusive sources in Tehran believe that those who smuggled heroin out of Iran must have had close contacts with Shah's twin sister Ashraf who was known to be an international narcotic smuggler. But the interesting part is that even today a great quantities of pure heroin is being smuggled to Britain and the British officials are unable to trace them. Exclusive sources believe that the Iranians living abroad should have certain contacts with certain officials who are holding important positions among the religious circles. Last year, lack of officials encouraged the farmers to increase their poppy cultivation and the control over the poppy growers under the present political circumstances seems to be most difficult and the heroin is expected to find its way in international European and American markets unless the government's police forces are increased in the coming year. [Text] [Tehran EXCLUSIVE in English 12 Aug 79 p 8]

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BRIEFS

SUSPECTED DRUG DEALERS--Stuttgart--During the past 2 weeks 14 suspected drug dealers have been detained in Baden-Wuerttemberg and the neighboring states of Hesse and Rhineland Palatinate. Stuttgart police announced on Friday that an arrest warrant has been issued for all people concerned. Eight of those detained are, according to the authorities, members of a Turkish drug dealer ring from the Mainz-Wiesbaden area as well as from the Bruchsal area. [Text] [Hamburg DPA in German 1740 GMT 24 Aug 79 LD]

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DRUG USE RISE NOTED, PREVENTIVE STEPS DISCUSSED

Paris LE MONDE in French 3 Aug 79 p 14

[Article: "Drugs Are Still With Us" by Dr Claude Olievenstein, director of Marmottan Center]

[Text] To be sure one is dumfounded today by the magnitude of the problems that beset us as citizens, as republicans, as democrats: the matter of refugees from Vietnam and Cambodia is of particular seriousness at the present moment, the multiplicity of erosions of freedom and democracy are very grave in the medium term. The New Fascism is due to mobilize every last one of us, but is it too much to ask to save some attention to the problems of children in this country?

Very few people have the courage to busy themselves with dossiers that do not bring anything in, and without sharing all her opinions I feel I should salute the courage of Mrs Pelletier, minister on the condition of women, who has just put before the Council of Ministers a proposal of a program for combating toxic drug abuse.

Mrs Pelletier quite correctly recalls to mind that the increase in drug use has never been so great. Deaths are up by 50 percent from one year to the next, burglaries of pharmacies are up by 60 percent, street hold-ups by 70 percent and drug seizures are taking place on an enormous scale. These figures are but a poor reflection of the reality of the situation. For example, the Paris area, leaving out the city proper, has been more or less abandoned both from the viewpoint of sanitation and of police surveillance.

For our part, we are alarmed by the massive distribution of drugs in all geographic regions, and within each such region, throughout all social strata of the population.

We are equally alarmed by the lowering of the age-group in the population that is affected, the impunity with which certain "in" groups devote themselves to encouraging minors to use drugs, increasingly contributing to delinquency in toxic use of medications and stain-removers.

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The men on the spot will therefore be grateful to Monique Pelletier for placing their anxiety in the official record. We believe that above and beyond the numerical significance of the people involved, mania for the ingestion of poisons is a signal-symptom of the malaise of a generation in cities.

We believe that if we are to have a future as a community, we must both remedy the evil and ask ourselves what could be the motivations of those who prefer jail, living outside the law, and death to the present situation. That is surely the weakest point in Mrs Pelletier's proposal. Despite her genuine good will she is unable to come up with any consideration in this area which could compel radical questioning of the system of present official thinking on the subject. Let us not be more royalist than the king: I consider it a major event that the Council of Ministers is addressing this problem at all.

While holding on to my own opinions, I have always deplored the lack of a national consensus on certain problems of civilization. Also may I say that this assumption of awareness satisfies me because it is necessary and urgent.

And what of the measures proposed?

On the information level it seems right to me to advocate making people more generally aware of the problem. Silence on suicide has never prevented an increase in the suicide rate, and a major country is more mature for facing a problem than an infantile country. Mrs Pelletier has chosen a highly personal way to spread the word. At this stage of the operation she is right, for under-informing responsible officials at all levels is both scandalous and seriously deficient for a government action. For instance, one can only feel scandalized at the total failure to provide training for medical and paramedical personnel, a fact of great significance. That is one concrete step that could become a reality quickly enough.

We do regret, however, that in the program elaborated by Mrs Pelletier there are two deficiencies in the information category: for one thing the lack of a real audio-visual policy, and for another, the lack of any genuine investigation of possibilities for action vis-a-vis the youth press. On that level innovation is really lagging behind.

Concerning coordination, we are among those who think that pluralism of thoughts and institutions makes possible, and in this field everything remains to be done, a genuine emulation and a genuine experimentation. But nevertheless, we have taken into account that it is necessary to define a true drug policy, and we can only salute the request formulated by the lady minister for real coordination at the level of these particular problems.

As far as [public] health is concerned, for years we have been screaming to have set up in the provinces that are particularly affected an experimental system for taking care of toxicomaniacs, which could serve as a

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pilot operation to be copied in the other provinces. In this connection the provinces of Seine-Saint-Denis and Alpes-Maritimes would seem to us to serve satisfactorily.

The other measures mentioned seem to us more current and subject to questioning.

The establishment of a closed service is acceptable on the express condition that it must not turn into the center of a drug policy. It is only the repressive element for a few great dangerous perverts and proselytizers which prohibit the development of a liberal policy.

As for the presence of specialists in mental hygiene consultations, we could wish personally that these specialists should be on hand more for consultations in general medicine than in psychiatric consultations. But it is true that a word from someone competent is more and more essential in order to get control of the situation.

In the field of education it appears that the lack of policy in the last few years has been gradually giving way to an awareness of realities.

We have nothing but encouragement for the formation of health clubs that would integrate the drug problem with the problem of other nuisances that endanger the quasi-ecological development of the body and the psyche.

Finally, we can only welcome with relief the lady minister's proposal that the government officials and the people in the field get together, and in an informal way. That way the people in the field will not fight shy of the initiatives undertaken by someone who dares to address a difficult and arduous problem by means of measures hardly very spectacular, but real for once. Since we have finally had proposed to us a program free from demagogy, we must mobilize ourselves to support it and make it translate into reality. But may we be permitted to repeat that drugs are only one of a number of manifestations of a disease of living that has its true source elsewhere: family, school, politics and work must all be called into question for a vision more futurist than protective: without that we will always and forever be one day behind.

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BRIEFS

HEROIN SMUGGLERS CHARGED--Athens, Sun: An Athens public prosecutor yesterday charged a German and an Australian woman with illegal possession and smuggling of narcotics into Greece. Max-Thebald Eichhorn (26), a violin maker, and Miss Denis Fenwick (27), single, a gymnastics teacher, of Loxton, South Australia, were arrested in the centre of Athens last Thursday when the police found 50 grams of heroin on them, a spokesman said. [Text] [Perth THE WEST AUSTRALIAN in English 9 Jul 79 p 29]

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DUTCH RESENT YOUNG DRUG ADDICTS IN AMSTERDAM

Paris LE FIGARO in French 3 Aug 79 p 8

/Article by Rene Ter Steege/

/Text/ Hub of the drug traffic and refuge for a generation of lost and troubled youth, Amsterdam also stands as a symbol of permissiveness. The city's socialist government has, however, recently set itself to tackle the drug problem. Its method has been clumsy to say the least, as illustrated in the following article by Dutch journalist Rene Ter Steege.

In a gloomy 19th century-style neighborhood, where tourists rarely venture, the "decent folk" have either put double locks on their doors and nailed their windows shut to protect themselves, or have left the neighborhood altogether.

Among the local merchants, spirits are low. The reason is that the city chose this particular neighborhood for an "experiment" in its struggle with the drug problem, which has been the scourge of Amsterdam for many years. An old cafe was selected by city officials as a rest center for drug addicts--in large part young people from Surinam, a former Dutch colony in South America. Irene Vorrink, 61-year-old mayoral assistant, former minister, and in charge of the anti-drug experiment in the capital, made a formal promise: "No more than 25 drug addicts will be admitted to the rest center," she stated when the program was launched. Unfortunately, the number of drug users attracted by the experiment neared the hundred mark, and included down-and-outers, drug dealers and other shady types.

The neighborhood residents, already among the least favored of Amsterdam, bore the brunt of this unexpected influx. It was not unusual for them to find vomit and human excrement on their front steps, left by the rest center's steady customers. One woman had the nerve to complain to one of the customers, who replied by throwing excrement in her face.

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There we have the provisional--and disgusting--results of a city experiment doomed to failure from the start. The city locked itself into this experiment when, in May, it decided to end the illegal occupation of a building by Surinam heroin addicts in another Amsterdam neighborhood, where a booming "drug trade center" had become established. It was one of Amsterdam's open secrets.

The problem was, then, what to do after evacuating the addicts. At all costs, the city wanted to avoid scattering the addicts throughout Amsterdam, where the majority of them would have no other choice but to rob people on the street and steal from cars to satisy their habit.

The "rest center" solution was seized upon in order not to lose contact with the drug addicts, so that help could be offered to those who wanted it. The next problem was where to locate the centers. The leftist city government, mainly socialist, saw in this situation a perfect way to put the "participation" principle into practice.

But it quickly became apparent that the people of Amsterdam were not at all happy with this solution, and the tragi-comedy that resulted made Amsterdam history.

"A Circus"

With Irene Vorrink in charge, a "participation circus" toured the neighborhoods which had been designated--not elected--to receive the drug addicts. It came as no surprise that the first reaction to the experiment was complete rejection on the part of neighborhood residents. And their dissatisfaction was recently heard loud and clear. The people of Amsterdam were scared--scared of crime, and scared of having their children become addicted to heroin. Their fear, mixed with anger, turned riotous when they saw that Vorrink could care less about their protests. "Look at that circus," she reportedly muttered to one of her assistants, referring to the agitated neighborhood residents.

"Take a drug addict into your home" was one of the many remarks meant for the assistant mayor. Racist comments aimed at the Surinam drug addicts also abounded.

This violent public protest nearly caused Vorrink to have a nervous breakdown during her tour of the popular neighborhoods, where she was insulted everywhere she went. Finally, disillusioned and embittered, she admitted that deep down, she saw no solution to the drug problem, herself.

The "participation circus" lasted only 8 days in all, as Vorrink gave up midway through. Given the Amsterdam residents' reactions, the city had no choice but to abandon the rest center project. It was clearly a victory for the residents of the chosen neighborhoods. However, the local people quickly saw that "they" (meaning the city officials) had only made a tactical retreat. The idea of choosing cafes and other public places as rest centers

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for hundreds--more than 1,500 according to one expert--of drug addicts had been launched.

To try to reassure a dumbfounded populace once more, it was stated that rules in the addict-cafes would be strictly enforced. In an official communique on 18 June, Vorrink emphasized that "heroin traffic is forbidden in these establishments. Any violation of this rule will result in the establishment's closing."

This time, the city government did not dare to inform the Amsterdam people. There was thus much less commotion around the first cafe opened to drug users. It was the local press which drew up the first balance sheet after several months of "experimentation." For the neighborhood residents, it was especially devastating to read that the police stationed in front of the cafe were perfectly well aware of the drug traffic going on in the back room, but they could do nothing about it. "By the time we'd make it back there, with all those hostile clients barring our way, the drugs would have been safely hidden away," one of them remarked.

/ line missing / confession led the city of Amsterdam to "provisionally halt" the addict-cafe project. But, given the word "provisional," many residents of the Dutch capital are wondering what is in store for them next.

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SPAIN

DRUG ABUSE, TRAFFICKING IN CANARIES VIEWED

Madrid YA in Spanish 2 Aug 79 p 14

/Excerpt from the book "The Canaries, an Archipelago in Conflict," soon to be published by Argos-Vergara; author's copyright; total or partial reproduction prohibited; by Cesar de la Lama/

/Text/ Ten thousand young Canarians are drug addicts. Drugs have infiltrated intermediate education schools and institutes and taken hold of 14 to 20-year olds. Young people in the Canaries are now reaping the legacy of abandonment and civic immorality that still persists to some degree. It is the aftermath of the situation that prevailed until late 1975. Drug peddlers circulated freely through the streets of Canarian cities, offering their wares without any precautions. Pharmacies sold all sorts of psychotropic medicines without paying attention to the stipulated legal requirements. Foreigners could calmly send drugs so acquired to their home countries, Sweden in particular. The consumption of various kinds of drugs was another incentive to offer tourists.

Drugs have taken hold in the archipelago to the point that its two major cities, Las Palmas and Santa Cruz de Tenerife, have become key points, sought after by the Mafia, in the international market. Island police authorities fear that Las Palmas is their target, where organization leaders might set up their heroin laboratory for Europe and the Americas, which was operated by the Corsican Mafia in Marseilles until it was dismantled in 1970. The reason that it lasted so long could be that certain French authorities reached an understanding with the Mafia in exchange for its cooperation in getting rid of some members of the OAS /Secret Army Organization/.

The Mafia has its eyes on three cities: Las Palmas, Ibiza and an undetermined site in Portugal; this is in addition to Hamburg and Hong Kong, where it is already established.

The Canarian city, with its port of La Luz, is regarded as the most likely site by the organization's leaders because it is located between three continents and has the world's second busiest port, which is also short of customs controls.

Contacts with Africa

Las Palmas has a lengthy history in the world of drugs, in the trafficking and consumption of narcotics. Its beginnings must be sought in its proximity to the African continent. Canarian soldiers discovered kif and "chira" during the African war. They experimented with it both because of the circumstances in which they found themselves and because it was sold "legally."

Back in the islands, they took advantage of ship stopovers to put in their orders for kif, thus sustaining a permenent nucleus of cannabis consumption in the port area, in the district known as "La Isleta."

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The accidentally acquired habit was gradually spread through small circles of friends in an atmosphere that was favorable on account of their socioeconomic conditions.

Some years later, after the Spanish Civil War was over, which was a time of poverty and privation on the islands, the use of drugs became more widespread with the return home of young Canarians who had belonged to the Legion, where the habit was deeply rooted.

By 1950, a small group of people were regular users of cannabis in La Isleta. They merely used the drug and did not think about making a profit from it. Soon, however, new potential drug centers emerged in force in Las Palmas with the opening of game rooms or table soccer halls. These were meeting places for idlers where information could be exchanged, and what we today know as juvenile delinquency began to germinate there.

The table soccer halls became genuine "schools of crime" where young people from the city or of humble social status or with criminal predispositions or tendencies openly began using drugs.

The proliferation of game rooms, the beat movement and the flood of tourism in the 1960's produced totally corrupted youths who would venture out of their ghettoes "to pick up Swedish girls" and to make contact at discotheques with middle class youths, students and skilled workers, whom they initiated in the use of drugs and who, in turn, contributed more advanced know-how in this regard, which was how the world of amphetamines was discovered.

Deplorable Situation

The situation had become deplorable by late 1975. Drugs had infiltrated every corner, including schools, and the number of young addicts was real cause for concern.

The panorama began to change in 1976. Pharmacists, with exceptions, stopped selling mind-altering drugs without a prescription. Panic spread, and the traffickers and peddlers decided to cut down on their activities and adopt a wait-and-see attitude.

A Provincial Commission for the Struggle against Drug Addiction, made up of various provincial bodies, was established by the Civilian Government of Las Palmas. Among its objectives were: furnishing medical information on drugs in schools; the creation of a mental health center and a special treatment unit at the Island Hospital; the enactment of regulations so that drug addicts are treated as such, not as criminals, by seeing to it that addicts, who are dangerous to society, are put under treatment and monitored in hospitals, not in penitentiaries. The

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creation of a treatment center for the social rehabilitation of addicts was also proposed.

The Las Palmas Narcotics Squad undertook intensive police activities against drug addicts in 1977, and 497 persons were arrested for drug-related crimes.

The Las Palmas Police has more work than it can handle; it is undermanned. The port is a stopover along the African and American routes, and this is how hashish normally enters. If we keep in mind that the port of Las Palmas is the world's second busiest, we will not be surprised that the international Mafia has its eyes on it for the clandestine laboratories that were recently closed down in Marseilles. In light of this situation, we ought to learn from the living examples of other ports, such as Hamburg and Hong Kong, which are currently cities where vice and crime reign supreme and whose initial characteristics were similar to the ones that exist today in Las Palmas.

Problems in the Struggle against Drugs

Separately, it is almost impossible to keep the airport under total control, on account of the great influx of tourists, who usually travel to the south of the island, 50 kilometers from the capital. The enormous amount of work in the city takes up all of the personnel assigned to drug matters, and thus any measures that are taken are ineffective, albeit necessary, because experience tells us that the cocaine from South America bound for Europe arrives in the islands by plane.

The manufacture and sale of mind-altering drugs is out of control in Spain. The Sandoz laboratory has stopped making medical samples of LSD, and other Spanish pharmaceutical labs are being subjected to rigorous controls. Meanwhile, 500 tons of hashish a year are produced in Ketama (Morocco), which supplies all of Europe. This is the most popular drug in the islands because even the most modest income-earners can afford it. It is the drug of the poor, inasmuch as a gram of heroine costs 12,000 pesetas, and a gram of cocaine, 8,000.

What drugs are used in the Canaries? At present, all of them, to a greater or lesser extent, but preferences are dictated by economic resources, as in life's other transactions. Police Inspector Jose Maria Ledesma de la Cruz, the head of the Las Palmas Special Narcotics Squad, lists the most popular drugs in the archipelago:

Cannabis and its derivatives, hashish, marihuana; opium and its most common alkaloids, thebaine, narcotine, codeine, morphine, narceine, papaverine and heroin.

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Two million kilograms of opium a year leave the poppy fields in the famous "golden triangle" between Laos, Thailand and Burma; it cov 's an area 600 kilometers long and 250 kilometers wide and is inhabited by isolated tribes that have been living off the crop since the early part of the century.

This immense output of the raw material has given rise to an underground industry that manufactures morphine and heroin.

Is this variety of drug consumed in the Canary Islands? Until 1974 it was detected only among foreign nationals.

From that point on, however, our youth began experimenting with nasal inhalation of the drug. According to police sources, there has been an alarming rise in the consumption of this narcotic. Cocaine, mind-altering substances, LSD, amphetamines, barbiturates and tranquilizers are also used.

In spite of the measures that the authorities have taken, drugs are still common in the Canaries. Their eradication is a problem for which a solution has not yet been found, if in fact there is one. It is a social disgrace that bears close relation with the new social structures of a pivotal crisis era.

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OPIUM, COCAINE STOLEN FROM BARCELONA PHARMACY

Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 27 Jul 79 p 24

/Text/ Two individuals armed with sawed-off shotguns entered a pharmacy located at 459 Provenza Street, and seized narcotics such as opium, codeine, coca leaves, etc., "40 in all," according to the report presented to the police. Before fleeing, the two hold-up men tied up the owner and two employees, and also took possession of about 85,000 pesetas.

A Million in Loot

More than a million pesetas in loot was stolen by five individuals armed with a pistol who held up the branch of the Cataluna Savings Bank at 25 Paseo del Borne. The assailants, who threatened the eight persons present in the savings institution in order to commit the crime, fled in a "Seat 132" with Gran Canaria registration.

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HASHISH CONFISCATED IN ALMERIA

Barcelona LA VANGUARDIA in Spanish 1 Aug 79 p 26

/Text/ Almeria, 31--About 300 kilograms of hashish, valued at more than 30 million pesetas, has been confiscated by members, of the 262nd command of the Civil Guard in this city.

When the smugglers, whose identity and means of transport are unknown, were unable to break through the line established by the soldiers they decided to throw away the greater part of the merchandise in an inaccesible cliff area in the Moron de los Genoveses on the beaches of San Jose in this province.

Other bags containing drugs were also thrown into the sea, appearing later on the beach, washed up by the waves.

This action is the result of the intense surveillance which the Civil Guard is carrying out in the province.

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AMPHETAMINE ABUSE REPORTEDLY INCREASING

Madrid YA in Spanish 26 Jul 79 p 39

/Text/ In recent years the use of "anfetas" (amphetamines and similar derivatives) has become widespread among Spanish young people, despite the fact that they are more toxic and more dangerous than the so-called psychedelic drugs, according to the book "Drug Use in Spain," by Doctor Enrique Gonzalez Duro.

"Amphetamines kill. In the end they ruin, destroy...string out a man, cut off sleep, health, intelligence and appetite. All the appetites. All..."affirms Gonzalez Duro, a doctor attached to the psychiatric clinic of the Francisco Franco Hospital in Madrid.

The "anfetan" are drugs that never liberate or expand the consciousness. On one hand, they increase social performance, take away hunger, stimulate competitiveness, produce aggression,etc. They make their users more docile and submissive to rules and orders, and because of this, the book says, "they have been used in North American prisons, in moderate doses, to calm down the most maladjusted or rebellious prisoners."

In Spain, 9 million units of this drug were sold legally during 1976, for a value of a billion pesetas. In that same year, in Great Britain something less than 4 million units of amphetamines were used, that is, less than half as many as in Spain.

This is because many medicines containing amphetamines can be freely obtained in pharmacies, despite existing legal requirements to dispense them only by prescription. This year a such stricter watch appears to have been kept on the pharmacies, though not to the point of over-strictness, Doctor Gonzalez Duro states.

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FEDERAL COMMISSION TERMS DRUG PROBLEM WORSE THAN EVER

Geneva JOURNAL DE GENEVE in French 29 Jun 79 p 9

[Text] During its recent annual session, the Federal Drug Commission expressed its concern with regard to the continuing spread of drug abuse, especially among the youth. The tendency to consume powerful drugs, easy access to drugs, their widespread availability, addiction to many drugs, the increasingly subtle and daring methods employed by the traffickers as well as the increase in drug-connected delinquency are now typical of the drug scene. To this is added the fact that teenagers, including an increasing number of girls, come into contact with drugs at a very early age, some of them even while still in elementary school, and regularly consume liquor, tobacco and drugs. Moreover, the number of steady users of powerful drugs, who are seriously dependent on them both physically and psychically and who become delinquent and socially decadent, is also rising. This situation and the probability that it will not improve in the near future, prompt the Federal Drug Commission to attract attention once again to the dangers and risks connected with the consumption of powerful drugs and to the necessity and urgency for creating institutions for the treatment and social rehabilitation of drug addicts. Furthermore, the commission emphasizes the important role to be played by the measures of prevention and information in the struggle against drug abuse. The schools and families assume a great responsibility with regard to this problem. Good examples set by adults, the security of the home as well as satisfaction in school and at work and the feeling of being understood are the best conditions for preventing a possible "career" of drug addiction.

There are reasons for recalling that the possession as well as use of and trafficking in even the so-called mild drugs such as marihuana and hashish are punishable and automatically prosecuted. "Legalization" of these drugs, which is often called for, does not enter into consideration. Furthermore, it would run counter to the international agreements and recommendations in this area.

Finally, the commission indicates that the Drug Information and Coordination Service if the Federal Public Health Office will organize an information campaign on this problem next August.

Its objective is to make the public as well as political authorities and education officials aware of the problem and to reveal the particular aspects posed by assistance to drug addicts.

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ALPINE COUNTRY NOT SAFE FOR DRUG TRAFFIC

Police Arrest Hard Drug Dealers

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 19 Jul 79 p 4

[Text] Lausanne, 17 July. (sda). Lausanne police arrested a couple who earned their livelihood through dealing in hard drugs. The young woman admitted she had traveled about 30 times to Italy and had smuggled some 300 grams of narcotics, valued at 150,000 Swiss francs, into Switzerland. The investigation extended to about 30 drug consumers in Lausanne, Ste. Croix and La Chaux-de-Fonds. Moreover, the Lausanne police succeeded in putting a stop to a foreigner's activities who had stolen several tons of metal from his Swiss employer, selling them for several tens of thousands of Swiss francs.

Member of International Drug Net Arrested

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 19 Jul 79 p 4

[Text] (sda) A drug dealer born in 1951 in Feldkirch, of German nationality, was sentenced to 20 months of imprisonment by the district court of Oberrheintal at Altstaetten for repeated and continuous contravention against the narcotics law, taking into account his 125 days of custody pending investigation. In consideration for his Swiss-born wife, the court decided against deportation.

The convict was a member of an international drug net who used his apartment at Altstaetten as a reshipment place for extensive drug traffic. Hard drugs and hashish, and especially LSD, imported to the Rhine valley from Amsterdam via France and from Italy, were sold particularly in eastern Switzerland, as well as the neighboring principality of Liechtenstein and in Vorarlberg province of Austria. The broken up drug net had traded a total of approximately 170,000 Swiss francs' worth of drugs since the fall of 1978. All told seven of its principal figures (both Swiss and Austrian nationals from Vorarlberg), aged from 19 to 28, have been arrested so far.

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Police Confiscate Large Amount of Heroin

Zurich NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG in German 1/2 Aug 79 p 21

[Article by ma: "Drugs for 170,000 'Shots'"]

[Text] At Zurich-Kloten airport a total of 11,180 grams of heroin number 3, so-called brown sugar, has been confiscated in four trunks equipped with double bottoms. The owners of the baggage, a 26-year old plumber and a 28-year old housewife from Verona, have been arrested. The two Italian citizens had flown to Bangkok via Zurich on 27 May and apparently intended to return the same way to Italy on 11 June.

A spokesman of the cantonal police announced Monday that the investigation concerning the couple was quite difficult since the plumber refused to make a confession for a long time. Rather, he persisted in presenting several false versions of the facts. For example, he claims to have been recruited in Bangkok by an unidentified man, allegedly for the purpose of smuggling jewelry, with the proposition that he would be paid a sum which converts to roughly 10,000 Swiss francs. He was finally forced to drop his insistence that he did not know about the true contents of the trunks, whereupon he confessed to having smuggled the drugs. His companion, on the other hand, continues to deny any participation in the drug transaction.

Based on leads passed on from Zurich to Interpol Rome, other individuals have been arrested in northern Italy. The specific market for which this heroin was ear-marked--incidentally the biggest quantity of brown sugar confiscated in the canton of Zurich at any one time--cannot be identified as yet. Based on an average of 15 injections per gram of heroin, the confiscated quantity would have sufficed for 167,700 "shots."

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BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZURE--Narcotics Branch teams, who have seized millions of liras worth of narcotics substances in a series of operations conducted during recent months, confiscated 100,000 liras worth of heroin from an individual named Osman Nihat Akkara who works as an artist in Sultanahmet (district). In his confession, O. N. Akkara, reputed heroin pusher, stated: "I can't paint without it. I wasn't going to sell this heroin." [Excerpts] [Istanbul DUNYA in Turkish 4 Aug 79 pp 1, 7]

LARGE HASHISH SEIZURE--Following the seizure of 100 kilos of hashish [esrar] in Sweden aboard the freighter "Architect Sinan," 560 kilos of hashish valued at 25 million TL has been confiscated aboard the freighter "General Ali Fuat Cebesoy" which belongs to the Maritime Bank's Maritime Shipping Operation. [Text] [Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 10 Aug 79 p 1]

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